

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Shorewood Inventory Number: K-155

Address: 32180 Wilson Point Road City: Galena Zip Code: 21635

County: Kent USGS Topographic Map: Millington

Owner: Sassafras Holding Company

Tax Parcel Number: 166 Tax Map Number: 8 Tax Account ID Number: 000942

Project: American Towers-Galena Site Agency: FCC

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ no ☐ yes Name of district: _____

Is district listed? ☒ no ☐ yes Determined eligible? ☒ no ☐ yes District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form completed by Marsha L. Fritz (1977); Historic Houses of Kent County (1998)

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Access to the survey and photograph the property was denied. During the visit, however, the house and grounds appeared to have changed little since completion of the MIHP form and the publication of the Historic Houses of Kent County volume.

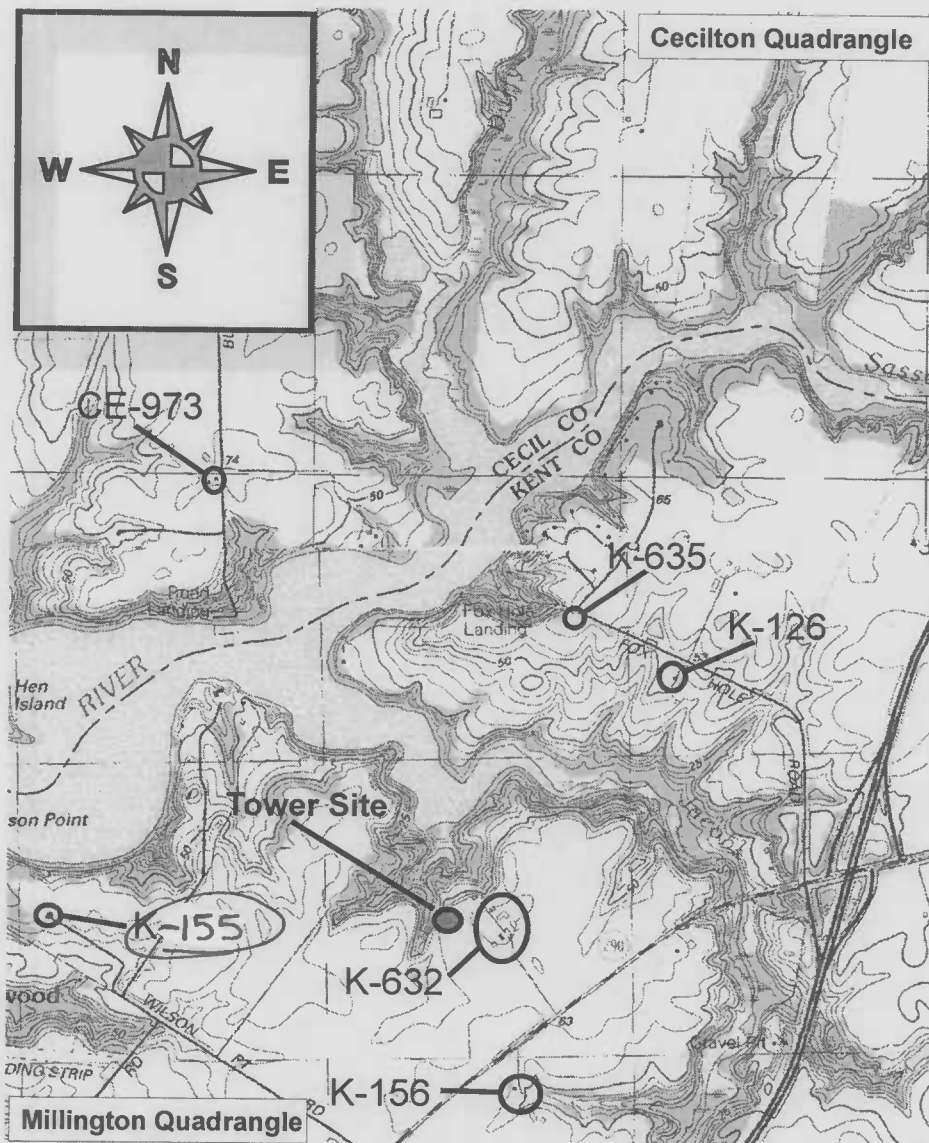
Prepared by: David S. Rotenstein

Date Prepared: November 2000

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <u>Jan 10, 2001</u>
Reviewer, NR program <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <u>2/7/01</u>

K-155



K-155

Shorewood, Wilson Point, Wilmer Point
Near Galena
c. 1850

Throughout the 18th century the land on which Shorewood would later be built was owned by Simon Wilmer, II (d. 1737), Simon Wilmer, III (d. 1768), and John Lambert Wilmer.¹ It was Simon Wilmer, III who actually left Chestertown for the upper reaches of the County and established his "dwelling plantation . . . between Swan Creek and Herring Creek and Sassafras River down the county . . ." ² At the time of his death in 1768, he left nearly everything to two of his four children – John Lambert Wilmer, mentioned above, and his daughter, Mary Wilmer Geddes, who had recently married the Customs Collector at Chestertown. His will also mentioned John's son, Simon, who later became a physician and also lived on the family plantation. By 1822, the heirs of Simon Wilmer were taxed on 853 acres consisting of parts of the Adventure, Cock of the Game, Cockstail, Hen Roost, Linkhorn and Browning's Addition.³

The farm stayed in the Wilmer family until it was acquired by Alexander Wilson in 1859.⁴ In his will which was probated in 1875, Wilson referred to himself as a farmer. By the time his will was written, Wilson had married a second time and had had two daughters to whom he bequeathed his home place "known as Wilmer's Point."⁵ Annia, daughter by his first marriage had married Walter J. Griffith and had lived at Moreton Hall, a farm adjoining on the east. Griffith and Wilson must have talked about the designs for their homes, as many of the details are similar.

Around 1860 Alexander Wilson and his wife built one of the most

impressive Italianate style frame dwellings in the County. Typical of the style, it was three stories in height, had a bracketed cornice and a lantern on a low-pitched hip roof. It was, however, deeper than usual. Nearly square, its three porches were embellished with cast iron supports and balustrades similar to Moreton Hall and the Dreka House nearby.

The five-bay facade had a double door with sidelights and transom. The central stairhall affords a view straight out the back door to the Sassafras River. Mahogany was used for the large octagonal newel post and handrail of the stair which ascends to the third floor without intermediate newels. Two boldly turned balusters per step were used throughout. Door and window trim were wide and bold, similar to the bolection work at Moreton Hall.

Twentieth century alterations to the house include a fine Georgian Revival style mantel with bolection moldings in the east parlor and a one and a half story kitchen wing on the west. On the river side, the second and third story paired windows had a third window added to each, creating a window wall in each of the rooms facing the River.

The property was purchased in the 1930's by Guiseppe M. Bellanca, a pioneer in American aviation. He was responsible for the superb formal Italian garden laid out east of the house. Shorewood is one of the best Antebellum houses of Kent and possesses a dramatic site on the upper reaches of the Sassafras River.

1. Wills, Lib. 4, fol. 361.
2. Ibid.
3. 1822 Tax Assessment.

4. Land Records, Lib. JKH 1, fol. 579.
5. Wills, Lib. EC 1, fol. 98.

K-155
Shorewood
Galena
Private

Mid-19th Century

Shorewood is an Italianate building with an elaborate one story cast iron veranda on three facades, a hipped roof and a cupula. Its site is landscaped with large, well-developed formal gardens, notable for their Italian statuary. The building was the home of Guiseppe M. Bellanca, a leading figure in 20th century aviation.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Shorewood

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Wilson Road, 3 miles east of Galena

CITY, TOWN

Galena

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. G.M. Bellanca

Telephone #:(301) 648-5172

STREET & NUMBER

Shorewood

CITY, TOWN

Galena

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21635

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #: 2AS 39

Folio #: 483

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-155

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Shorewood is one of the best Italianate houses in the area. It is set in formal landscaped grounds on a bluff overlooking the Sassafras River.

The building is of frame; three stories tall, it sets on a high brick cellar. The main house is three bays square with a central hall and hipped roof with cupula; there is a contemporary wing of one and one-half stories on the side. A one story veranda extends around three sides of the house. Its roof is supported by columns of lacy cast iron. Balustrades are wrought iron in a geometric design. Wide flights of steps lead to the lawn from the central, front and rear, entrances.

Windows are generous in size and evenly spaced. The sash are set in flat trim which is flush with the surface of the walls. Green louvered shutters are used on the upper floors; paneled shutters on the first.

The main entrance has a large transom and sidelights; the door has rounded upper panels trimmed with deep bolection moldings.

The central stair has bold turned balusters and a large octagonal newel. It is a dog-leg type stair which is open to the third floor. Interior rooms are spacious and light. Window and door trim is enriched with broad flat moldings; main first floor rooms have deep cornices and baseboards. Six-panel doors are used throughout.

In the parlor is an elaborate mantle with shelf supported by acanthus leaf consoles. An elaborate egg and dart molding surrounds the rectangular opening. Simpler neo-classical wooden mantles are used on upper floors.

In the wing is the kitchen and a modern den.

As important as the house are the grounds. The house is set in an axial relationship to rows of trees, and on the north side a well developed formal garden. Beyond the formal gardens are natural woodlands or picturesque groupings of trees; from the approach sequence to the borders of the formal gardens, the transition between formal and naturalistic was carefully designed. Views to and from the house, the water, and the surrounding country side are carefully controlled.

In the formal garden is a variety of seasonal plants and Italian marble statuary. Lists of both follow.

The house is part of a complex of buildings, including a stone dairy. It is used as a single family residence.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-155

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES mid-19th

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Shorewood is significant for its Italianate architecture, its sophisticated landscape design, and for its former owner, the late Guiseppe Mario Bellanca, a leading figure in early 20th century aviation. Mr. Bellanca was an early flyer, a member of the "Early Birds" who became a well-known aircraft designer and builder.

The building is notable for its cast iron porches and for its graceful Italianate design. The design of the gardens is unmatched in the area.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

September, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Chruch Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

SHOREWOOD GARDENS

GALENA, MD.

Statuary

1. Esculapio - Son of Appollo Godd of Medicine & Science
2. Eschine - Orator & Philosopher at the time of Aristotle-
4th Century B.C. (Copy- Original in Lateran
Museum in Rome)
3. - Goddess of Temperance
4. Two Mascheroni - Originals - approximately 1560 A.D.
5. Two Vasi (Vases) - Dance of the Musese Inspired from paint-
ing of Julio Romano which is now in the
gallery of the Uffizi.
6. Table - Roman Style - Verona Marble
7. Bench near Pergola - Marble - Renaissance Style - 1500 A.D.
There is a maskmon top, Arms Rams Heads,
Back emblem of Florentine family.
8. Tow Baptismal Fountains (located at river end of pergola)
Roman Style - 200 A.D.
9. Four Grosse (Jars) - Originals of 17th Century.
10. Two Roman Vasi (Vases) on tall pedestals.
11. Tgea - Muse of Medicine.
12. Baptismal Fountain of Renaissance - Four (Statues) Satires
Followers of Baccus.
13. Table - Renaissance Style with Agnello Pasquale in the middle.
14. Bench - Renaissance Style - 1500 A.D. - Near Table 13.

S H O R E W O O D G A R D E N S

TREES

Japanese Cherry

Himalayan Pine

Paper Nulberry

Cryptomeria - Japanese Pine

Deodara Cedar

Red Bud - Judas Tree

Pink Dogwood

White Dogwood

Holly

Magnolias

Star - Stellata

Grandiflora

Soulangeana - blush
purple outside, white inside

AZALEAS (within the genus Rhododendron)

Macrantha - wings of beds in formal garden

Fashion - center of beds in formal garden

Salmon Queen)	} along fence on right side of main entrance
Hinodigiri	
Coral Bell	

BUSHES

Bridle Wreath

Viburnum

Spiraea Anthony Waterer

Winged Euonymus (Horizontalis)

Beauty Berry

Quince Japanese

Pieris Japonica

Firebush or Pyracantha - better
known as Firethorn

Pearl Bush - Exochorda

Deutzia - white flowers-some
tinged pinkish

Nandina (Heavenly Bamboo)

Hydranges

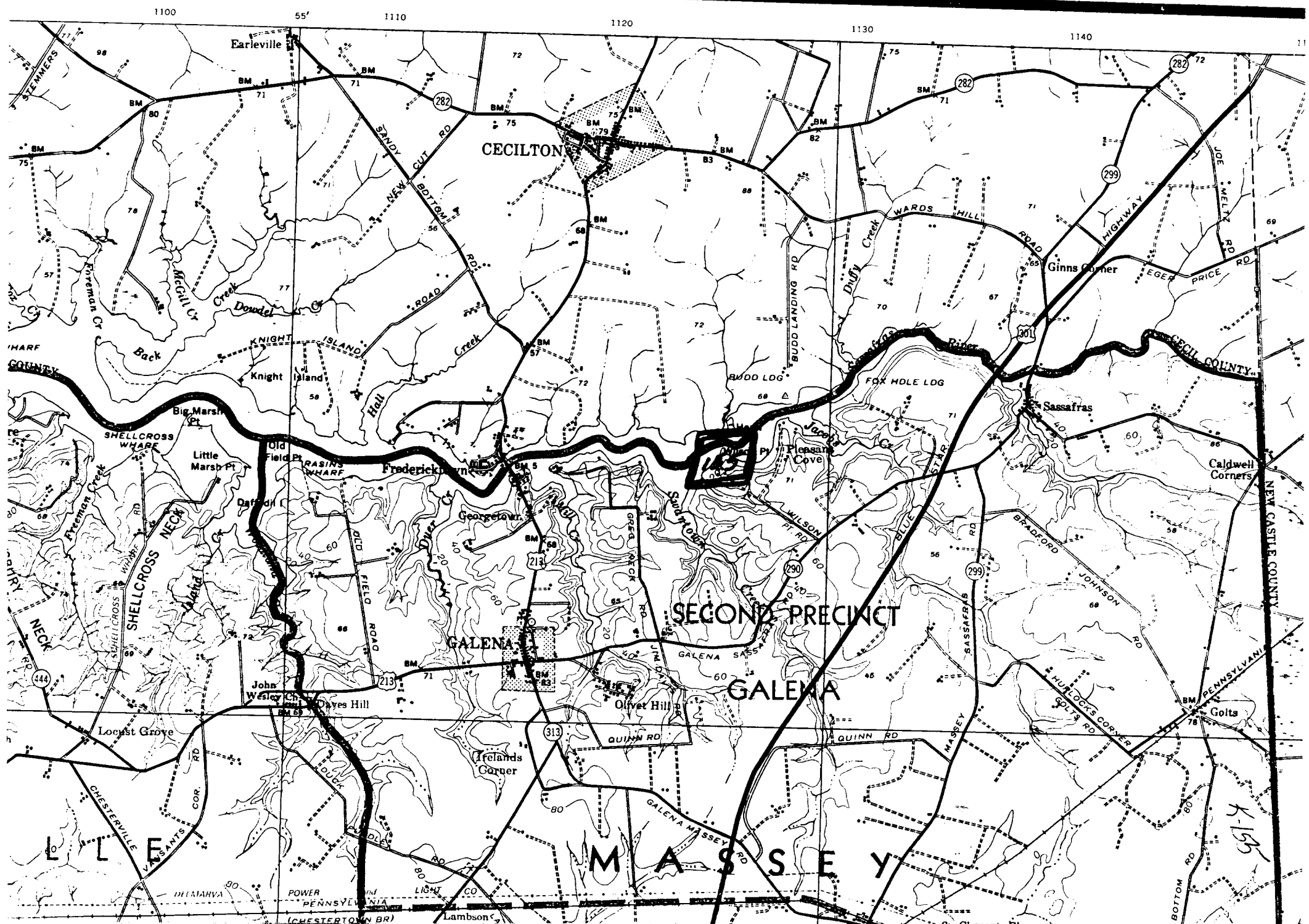
Snowball - Viburnum opulus

Cotoneaster - white flowers-
arching branches-Rose family-
in Fall vibrant colored fruits

Weigela - Honeysuckle family-
arching branches, dark
rose purple

Cut Leaf Japanese Maple

Rubrum Maple





K-155

Shore road

Wilson Point Rd. Galeana, Neb.

Stair Hall -

C. Engstrom

Aug 1977



K-155

Shorewood

Wilson Point Rd. Galena, Ind.

South Front

C. Engstrom

Aug 1977